

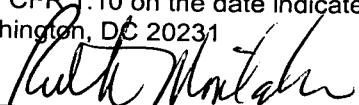
09/831985

JC18 Rec'd PCT/PTO 16 MAY 2001

EXPRESS MAIL No.: EL 645 878 903 US

Deposited: May 16, 2001

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Box PCT, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

  
 / Ruth Montalvo Date: 05/16/01

 #7  
 17 Nov 01  
 R. Tallent

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                |  |                   |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Customer No.                   | 026418                                       |                   |
| Attorney's Docket No.:         | GK-GEY-1110 / 500353.20133                   |                   |
| U.S. Application No.:          |  |                   |
| International Application No.: | PCT/EP <del>00</del> <sup>00</sup> 08959     |                   |
| International Filing Date:     | SEPTEMBER 14, 2000                           | 14 SEPTEMBER 2000 |
| Priority Date Claimed:         | SEPTEMBER 17 1999                            | 17 SEPTEMBER 1999 |
| Title of Invention:            | DEVICE FOR THE ATOMIZATION OF LIQUID SAMPLES |                   |
| Applicant(s) for (DO/EO/US):   | Harald BERNDT and Attila GÁSPÁR              |                   |

Box PCT  
 Commissioner of Patents  
 Washington, D. C. 20231

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

Applicant herewith submits together with the simultaneously filed National Phase application of PCT/EP00/08959, a copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210) dated February 15, 2001 and German Examination Report dated February 7, 2000 citing the following references:

|    | Document Number   | Date     | Name and/or Country | English Translation       |
|----|---|----------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| AL | 1 425 188   | 02/18/76 | Great Britain       |                           |
| AM | 26 40 285   | 03/09/78 | Germany             | (US Equivalent 4,147,434) |
| AN | 27 45 148   | 04/12/79 | Germany             |                           |
| AO | 28 05 137   | 08/09/79 | Germany             | (US Equivalent 4,312,591) |
| AP | 35 21 529   | 01/02/87 | Germany             | (US Equivalent 4,886,359) |
| AQ | 0 296 480   | 06/19/87 | European            |                           |
| AR | 0 356 566   | 03/07/90 | European            |                           |
| AS | Spectrochimica Acta, Part B, Bd. 52, 1997 pages 1087 - 1104 "New Developments in Thermospray Sample Introduction for Atomic Spectrometry" Conver, et al.  |          |                     |                           |
| AT | Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry, Bd. 23, Nr. 3, 1992, pages 113-141 "Thermospray Sample Introduction to Atomic Spectrometry" Koropchak, et al  |          |                     |                           |
| AU | Fresenius Z. Anal Chem. 1994. 319 pages 391-394, "Verbesserung der Empfindlichkeit in der Flammen-Atomabsorptions-Analyse durch Einsatz eines Quarzrohres mit Laengsschlita in den Atomisierungsraum" R. Keil |          |                     |                           |
| AV | Trends in Analytical Chemistry, Vol. 6, No. 7, 1987, pages 171-175 "Thermospray Sample Introduction to Atomic Spectrometry" Koropchak, et al  |          |                     |                           |

09/831985  
JC18 Rec'd PCT/PTO 16 MAY 2001

|    | Document Number   | Date | Name and/or Country | English Translation |
|----|---|------|---------------------|---------------------|
| AW | <b>Fresenius J. Anal Chem. 1992, 342, pages 47-50 "Hydraulic High-Pressure Nebulization Sample Introduction for Direct Analysis or On-Line matrix Separation and Trace Preconcentration in Flame AAS, Ivanova, et al.</b> |      |                     |                     |
| AX | <b>Analytical Chemistry, Vol. 566, No. 22 Nov. 15, 1994, pages 3900-3907, "Metal Speciation by Supercritical Fluid Extraction with On-Line Detection by Atomic Absorption Spectrometry" Wang, et al.</b>                  |      |                     |                     |
| AY | <b>Anal. Chem. 1983, 55, pages 750-754, :Thermospray Interface for Liquid Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry" Blakely, et al.</b>   |      |                     |                     |
| AZ | <b>Spectrochimica Acta, Part B, Bd. 52, 1997 pages 1711-1736, "Atom Trapping and in situ Preconcentration Techniques for Flame Atomic Absorption Spectrometry" H. Matusiewicz</b>   |      |                     |                     |

Accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement and form PTO-1449 are copies of the documents except the three US Equivalents. Documents AL, AM AO, AP, AS thru AU and AZ are mentioned on pages 2, 3 and 4 of the specification.

This submission is not an admission that the information disclosed in the documents is material to the patentability of the invention disclosed and/or claimed in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,



Gerald H. Kiel - Reg. No. 25,116  
Reed Smith LLP  
375 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10152

GHK:ram  
05/16/01  
Tel. (212) 521-5400  
Enclosures:

Search Report (PCT/ISA/210);  
German Examination Report;  
PTO-1449;  
14 documents w/3 English Abstracts.

**LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT**  
**(Filed on May 16, 2001)**

Docket No. GK-GEY-1110 / 500350.20133

Applicant(s): Harald BERNDT and Attila GÁSPÁR

Application No. (Int'l Appln No. PCT/EP99/05888 11AUG99) Group:

Filed: Concurrently herewith - May 16, 2001

Examiner:

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Exam.<br>Init |    | Document<br>Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub-<br>Class | Filing Date<br>Appropriate |
|---------------|----|--------------------|------|------|-------|---------------|----------------------------|
|               | AA |                    |      |      |       |               |                            |
|               | AB |                    |      |      |       |               |                            |
|               | AC |                    |      |      |       |               |                            |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

|  |    | Document<br>Number | Date     | Country       | CLASS | Sub-<br>Class | Translation<br>YES      NO |
|--|----|--------------------|----------|---------------|-------|---------------|----------------------------|
|  | AL | 1 425 188          | 02/18/76 | Great Britain |       |               |                            |
|  | AM | 26 40 285          | 03/09/78 | Germany       |       |               | X Abstract Only            |
|  | AN | 27 45 148          | 04/12/79 | Germany       |       |               |                            |
|  | AO | 28 05 137          | 08/09/79 | Germany       |       |               | X Abstract Only            |
|  | AP | 35 21 529          | 01/02/87 | Germany       |       |               | X Abstract Only            |
|  | AQ | 0 296 480          | 06/19/87 | European      |       |               |                            |
|  | AR | 0 356 566          | 03/07/90 | European      |       |               |                            |

\* OTHER PRIOR ART (*Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.*)

|  |    |  |
|--|----|--|
|  | AS | Spectrochimica Acta, Part B, Bd. 52, 1997 pages 1087 - 1104 "New Developments in Thermospray Sample Introduction for Atomic Spectrometry" Conver, et al.   |
|  | AT | Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry, Bd. 23, Nr. 3, 1992, pages 113-141 "Thermospray Sample Introduction to Atomic Spectrometry" Koropchak, et al   |
|  | AU | Fresenius Z. Anal Chem. 1994. 319 pages 391-394, "Verbesserung der Empfindlichkeit in der Flammen-Atomabsorptions-Analyse durch Einsatz eines Quarzrohres mit Laengsschlita in den Atomisierungsraum" R. Keil      |
|  | AV | Trends in Analytical Chemistry, Vol. 6, No. 7, 1987, pages 171-175 "Thermospray Sample Introduction to Atomic Spectrometry" Koropchak, et al   |
|  | AW | Fresenius J. Anal Chem. 1992, 342, pages 47-50 "Hydraulic High=Pressure Nebulization Sample Introduction for Direct Analysis or On-Line matrix Separation and Trace Preconcentration in Flame AAS, Ivanova, et al. |
|  | AX | Analytical Chemistry, Vol. 566, No. 22 Nov.15, 1994, pages 3900-3907, "Metal Speciation by Supercritical Fluid Extraction with On-Line Detection by Atomic Absorption Spectrometry" Wang, et al.                   |
|  | AY | Anal. Chem. 1983, 55, pages 750-754, :Thermospray Interface for Liquid Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry" Blakely, et al.   |
|  | AZ | Spectrochimica Acta, Part B, Bd. 52, 1997 pages 177-1736, "Atom Trapping and in situ Preconcentration Techniques for Flame Atomic Absorption Spectrometry" H. Matusiewicz  |

Examiner:

Date:

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.